

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. Requiring their stations to air a one-sided program, on any subject, therefore should be considered illegal. The FCC has the authority to either stop Sinclair's from airing the one-sided program, "Stolen Honor" or require Sinclair to air a pro-Kerry program shortly after the anti-Kerry program. When large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.